

# India Challenge



Girlguiding Essex NE is fundraising for a trip to India, in August, 2017, starting with an event at Sangam, which will include time working in the local community. The money raised from this Challenge will support the trip and the local projects we will be working on.

In order to gain the badge, you should complete the following number of Challenges (at least 1 from each section):

Rainbows and Brownies	minimum of 6
Guides, Senior Section, Leaders and Trefoil	minimum of 10

## Culture:

❖ Can you find these 25 Hindi words, used in English?

BANDANA BAZAAR BUNGALOW CASHMERE CHEETAH CHINTZ  
CHUTNEY COT CUMMERBUND DINGHY DUNGAREES GURU  
HULLABALOO JUGGERNAUT KHAKI LOOT POLO PUNCH PUNDIT  
PYJAMAS SHAMPOO SHAWL THUG VERANDA YOGA

S	O	H	T	Y	H	G	N	I	D	O	B	E	I	N	E	C	N
E	R	P	A	T	A	H	T	W	O	N	D	N	H	A	L	O	G
E	I	L	S	B	T	H	E	P	U	N	C	H	U	R	E	T	F
R	R	S	H	A	M	P	O	O	E	V	E	O	L	H	W	R	O
A	W	A	K	N	E	S	I	L	N	E	N	G	L	L	A	N	C
G	O	S	S	D	E	E	S	O	D	S	A	M	A	J	Y	P	H
N	M	E	M	A	O	R	N	Y	L	I	N	G	B	U	N	A	U
U	L	E	H	N	T	T	A	H	O	T	S	E	A	R	A	W	T
D	O	K	H	A	K	I	W	E	O	G	S	T	L	B	O	U	N
L	O	R	A	A	Z	A	B	E	T	H	A	F	O	O	D	E	E
D	I	K	N	O	A	D	N	A	R	E	V	W	O	N	Y	O	Y
J	U	G	G	E	R	N	A	U	T	D	N	A	U	L	L	H	A
W	S	H	A	W	L	I	L	L	A	W	H	B	I	L	E	A	U
H	T	T	D	L	C	A	S	H	M	E	R	E	O	U	H	T	P
E	H	U	N	Y	D	E	E	O	K	E	H	U	M	R	O	E	U
B	U	N	G	A	L	O	W	R	M	U	O	Y	F	U	O	E	R
I	G	D	L	E	N	E	S	M	S	Y	E	T	H	G	E	H	R
M	I	I	T	I	D	N	U	P	I	L	L	I	W	N	I	C	E
I	T	A	T	E	T	C	H	E	S	U	N	C	H	I	N	T	Z

❖ Design a Warli art card, or poster.

❖ Try laughter yoga.

- ❖ In a number of Indian religions, a mandala is a symbol to represent the universe. Colour your own mandala.
- ❖ In India, Rangoli patterns are made using powdered chalk, twisted between the artist's thumb and forefinger - small designs, for every day, and very large and elaborate ones, for special occasions. Make your own Rangoli design.
- ❖ Snakes and Ladders originates from India. Design your own Snakes and Ladders board and play a game.

## **Food and Drink**

- ❖ Arrange a spice-smelling session. How many can you recognise just from their aroma?
- ❖ You may have seen chapattis, naans and poppadums in your local supermarket, or Indian restaurant, but India has around 40 different kinds of bread. Can you find the names of at least 20?
- ❖ Cook and share an Indian meal.
- ❖ Make and taste chai.
- ❖ India grows more fruits than any country in the world. Taste a selection of different tropical fruits.

## **Sangam and Guiding**

- ❖ Find 10 interesting facts about Sangam, the World Centre, in India.
- ❖ Draw the Promise Badge of the Bharat Scouts and Guides.
- ❖ Indian Brownies are called Bulbuls - but what is a bulbul?

- ❖ Invite someone who has been to Sangam to your meeting, to talk about it.
- ❖ Learn “Sangam We Belong” - the song written specially for Sangam’s 50<sup>th</sup> birthday, in 2016.

## Festivals

- ❖ On one of the 9 days of Navratri, the annual festival of the goddess Durga, Hindus perform a blessing, known as aathi to each of the tools which help them do their job - everything from their car, or motorbike, to their computer, or machinery, to their hammers and screwdrivers, or kitchen equipment. Which items would you bless and why?
- ❖ Parsis celebrate the New Year in March, on the first day of spring, cleaning their houses, buying new cloths and flowers and decorating their houses with stars, butterflies, birds and fish. Make your own Parsi New Year decorations.
- ❖ Muslims do not eat, or drink, anything, between the hours of sunrise and sunset, for the entire holy month of Ramadan. The end of Ramadan is marked by Eid - a three-day festival, during which people make charitable donations to the poor, give sweets to their friends and neighbours and celebrate with feasts. Many women and girls will have special mehendi (henna) designs done, on their hands and feet. Try mehendi.
- ❖ The 10-day Ganapati Chaturthi (Ganesh festival) is especially popular in Maharashtra (the state in which Sangam is situated). Statues of the god, made of plaster, or unbaked clay, are installed in every Hindu home and many street corners and are the focus of many ceremonies, until, on the final day, they are taken in procession to the river, where they are “immersed” - which actually means they are thrown into the water, to dissolve. On a number of the days, devotees are expected to give sweets to everyone who passes their house. Make and try some Indian sweets.

## Song and Dance

- ❖ In 2014, almost two billion cinema tickets were sold, in India and over 600 films were released. Watch a Bollywood movie's dance routine and try to learn it.
- ❖ Learn and sing Sangam's official song, "Come into Sangam", which was written for its 25<sup>th</sup> birthday.
- ❖ Watch a performance of Kathak dancing.
- ❖ Listen to Bhangra music.
- ❖ Try dandiya dancing - which is always the culmination of the annual Durga festival.

## Wildlife

- ❖ Play "Pin the Trunk on the Elephant".
- ❖ The County group visiting India will be visiting a sanctuary for rescued working elephants, run by Wildlife SOS India. Find out about the work of this charity.
- ❖ Play Cheetahs and Cheetals - a favourite game, for Indian Guides.
- ❖ Design a poster, or write a blog, to raise awareness of environmental issues affecting Indian wildlife.

❖ Try this quiz, on Indian animals and birds:

1. Which is India's national animal?
2. Which animal is famous for its ability to fight and kill venomous snakes?
3. Which scavenging birds were almost wiped out, because of antibiotics given to cattle?
4. List 5 ways to tell an Indian elephant from an African one.
5. What are macaques and langurs?
6. Which poisonous snake is famous for its hood?
7. What is a nilgai?
8. Sangam is in the state of Maharashtra. Which of these is the state animal: the leopard; the giant squirrel or the Asiatic lion?
9. What colour is an Indian robin?
10. Which is India's national bird?